



SCHOOL UPDATES AND REMINDERS

RECONCILIATIONS:

Many of our Y4 pupils will be receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time in a special celebration on Thursday morning. We pray for them as they prepare to receive this sacrament and keep them in our thoughts as they continue along their sacramental journey this year.

SPONSORED WALK:

Very unfortunately, we took the decision this week to cancel our planned sponsored walk. Thank you to all those who volunteered their time to help with the event.

In lieu of this, pupils will be participating in a 'pilgrimage' – a prayerful journey – on the school grounds next week during which they will have the opportunity to take part in a number of creative Lenten prayer experiences and reflections. They will also be taking part in a 40-minute sponsored activity hoping to raise funds for our Lenten charity appeal supporting projects championed by the Parish of Our Lady and St Philip Neri *Gift for Life* group – in particular the purchase of new resources for the boys of the Ukweli Home for Hope in Nairobi, Kenya whose home was recently destroyed in a fire.

Donations can be made via Sims Pay360 (<https://www.pay360educationpayments.com/Home>) under the 'events' section (Lent 2022) or by sending cash into school in a clearly labelled envelope. Please spread the word and see how much we can raise for some great causes.

Even £5 per family would make a massive difference.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

FOOD DONATIONS:

Please could all food donations be sent into school by **Monday 4th April**, so that the produce can be collected and distributed by our dedicated team of parish volunteers before the end of term.

PRAYERS FOR UKRAINE:

We would ask you to continue to pray for the people of Ukraine and Russia, and for world leaders, that a swift and peaceful end to this conflict may be reached immediately:

*Loving God,
We pray for the people of Ukraine,
for all those suffering or afraid,
that you will be close to them and protect them.*

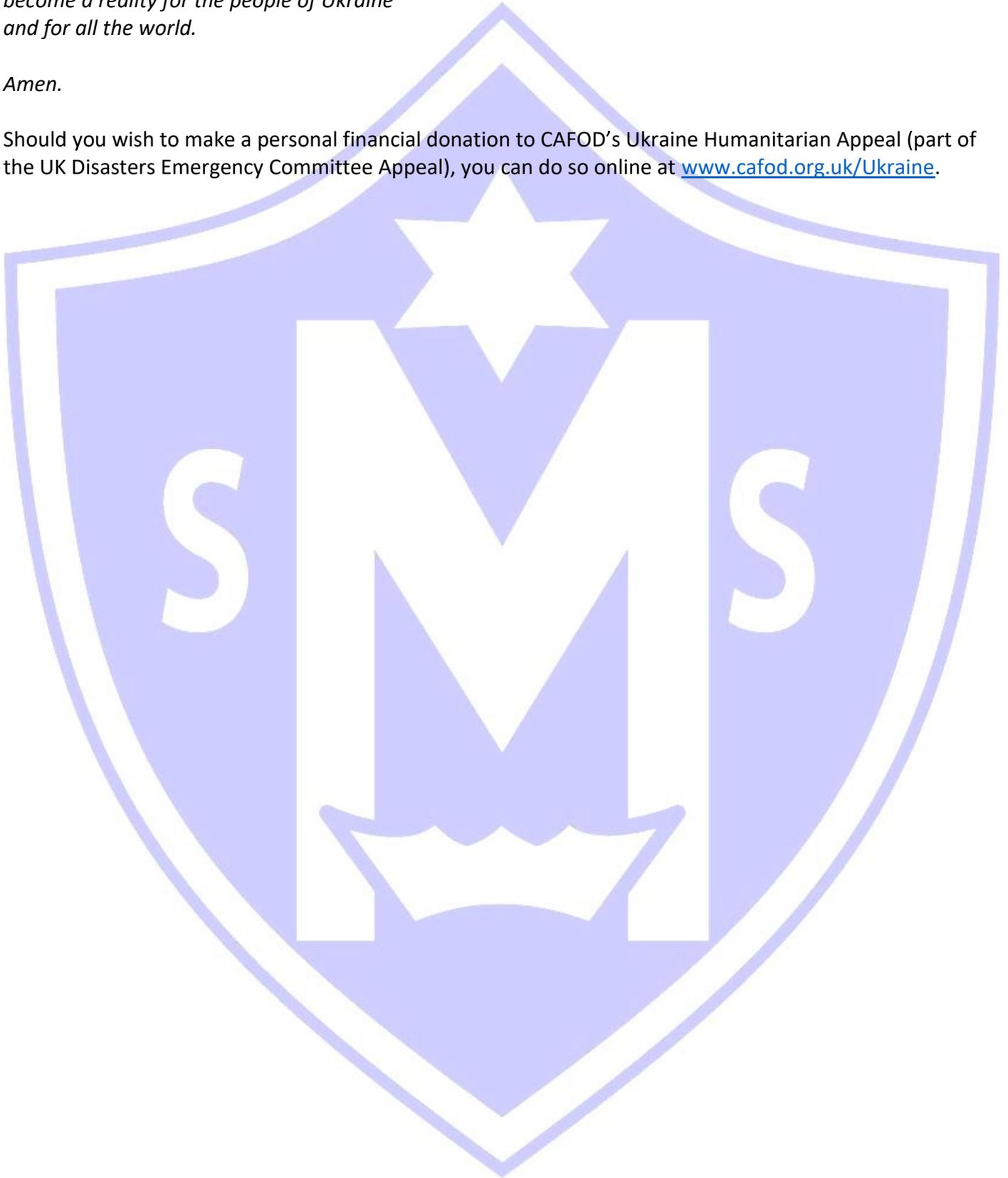
*We pray for world leaders,
for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.*

*We pray for the world
that in this moment of crisis,
we may reach out in solidarity
to our brothers and sisters in need.*

*May we walk in your ways
so that peace and justice
become a reality for the people of Ukraine
and for all the world.*

Amen.

Should you wish to make a personal financial donation to CAFOD's Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal (part of the UK Disasters Emergency Committee Appeal), you can do so online at www.cafod.org.uk/Ukraine.



COVID-19 ONGOING GUIDANCE

Please continue to adhere to the following guidance:

As a school, we continue to reserve the right to refuse attendance for pupils who:

- Display Covid-19 symptoms (pending a negative PCR test return);
- Have tested positive for Covid-19 via PCR or LFD test.

UPDATED ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUSPECTED CASES OF COVID-19:

- Your child must not come to school if they have any Covid -19 symptoms; they should access a free PCR test immediately and remain at home pending the outcome of the test.
- No adult should drop-off or pick-up from school if they have Covid-19 symptoms, have tested positive via an LFD test or is awaiting outcomes of a PCR test.

Please ensure that you inform school via the dedicated email inbox wsmcovid@gatedu.org if your child:

- Develops Covid-19 symptoms and is isolating;
- Requires a PCR test (due to displaying Covid symptoms);
- Receives a positive test outcome from a Lateral Flow Device.

UPDATED ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONFIRMED CASES OF COVID-19:

- Should your child test positive for Covid-19 via a PCR test, it continues to be a requirement for school, in line with our school risk assessment, that they must remain off school for up to 10 days after the date the symptoms started (or in the event of an asymptomatic case, from the day the test was taken).
- Should your child test negative via an LFD test for two consecutive days and they no longer have a raised temperature, they may return to school early after five full days has been completed (ie. On day 5 and 6 after symptoms/a positive test with the tests being taken over 24 hours apart).
- Should your child test positive via an LFD test, even without displaying Covid symptoms, they should also stay off school for up to 10 days (as if they had received a positive PCR test result), returning early if they no longer have a raised temperature and return negative LFD test outcomes on days 5 and 6. If tested, for example, in the morning of days 5 and 6, this could mean that they are able to return to school after 5 full days.
- *Please note, for a child to return to school following 5 full days off school, the 2nd negative test outcome must be received before the start of the school day.*

DAILY TESTING FOR CONTACTS OF COVID-19:

- Qualifying adults who are fully vaccinated and all children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 (no matter the variant) are still strongly advised to take an LFD test (for as long as they are made available) every day for 7 days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result.